

DISPATCH		SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. EAVA-30901
TO INFO	Chief, EE		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. []
FROM	Chief of Station, Vienna 18		DATE 23 November 1962
SUBJECT	GROOVY/GRCAMERA/Operational "Herrenabend" of <u>Die Presse</u> and Embassy Officials		RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)
			MARKED FOR INDEXING
			X NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED	FYI		INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY
REFERENCE(S)			
<p>1. In the course of routine contacts with Dr. Otto Schulmeister, Chief Editor of <u>Die Presse</u>, he mentioned his dissatisfaction with the lack of contacts between his newspaper and the senior officials of the Embassy. He emphasized that he was not interested in hand-outs or cocktail party invitations, but that he wanted an opportunity to have informal discussions between himself and his senior assistants on one hand, and responsible Embassy officials on the other. He felt that first-hand awareness on the part of his senior editors of American attitudes and points of view would help his people to better understand the issues and it would also result in a better image of the U. S. on the pages of the paper.</p> <p>2. I discussed the above with Charge Mr. Dwight J. Porter who was enthusiastically in favor of the idea and told me to go ahead with arrangements for a Herrenabend, to be attended by several senior Embassy officers.</p> <p>3. The event took place at my house on 20 November and lasted from 2100 to 0200 hours -- an experience we do not propose to repeat frequently. The following attended:</p> <p>a. For the Embassy: Political Counsellor Devine Economic Counsellor Olson First Secretary Sulser, Political Affairs First Secretary Waring, Finance Reporting Officer Second Secretary Skofield, Special Assistant</p> <p>b. For <u>Die Presse</u>: Dr. Schulmeister, Chief Editor Eidlitz, Deputy Chief Editor Nussbaum, Deputy Chief Editor (Economic) Gatterer, Foreign Affairs Editor Dalma, Diplomatic Correspondent</p> <p>4. We had a lively, spirited discussion for almost five hours, which need not be reported through our channels. The main purpose of the evening was certainly accomplished and a useful basis was created for follow-up and further personal contact, for our Embassy colleagues as well as for [] and myself.</p> <p>5. The evening should help us in our Presse relations, and it also furthered our working relations within the Embassy. Dr. Schulmeister seemed very grateful for the opportunity to meet the senior Embassy officials in this type of relaxed, informal situation. Similarly, the Embassy officers expressed great satisfaction for the opportunity to meet thus with such interesting, informed Austrian journalists.</p>			
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